

The Alliance Still Active and Increasing in Membership.

Editors Progressive Farmer:

A letter received from Mr. G. M. D. Howard, of Rennert, Robeson County, last week stated they would reorganize the Alliance at that place last Saturday. That is but a sample of the many letters I am getting from different sections of the State.

The interest in the Alliance seems to be continually increasing and Alliances are being organized every week. A letter just received from Mr. T. Ivey, states they will reorganize at Cary this week. He writes they already have the names of many of the very best farmers of the community who have expressed a desire to reorganize, and expect to add many more at the public meeting they will hold Saturday.

A letter received this morning from Brother Cates, who is now in Chatham, states that he is meeting with his usual success, and that many are being added to the Alliance in that county. He spent last week in that county and will remain there during this week. Chatham will undoubtedly be in fine shape when he has finished his work there. He will then spend a short time at work in Alamance.

It was my pleasure to be with the brethren of White Oak Alliance, near Apex on Saturday, the 19th. The brethren of the neighborhood had met two weeks before and effected an organization with 14 members. At their meeting, a week later they added 11 more, and last Saturday 15 additional names were handed in, making a membership of 40 in just two weeks after the first meeting. Bro. W. B. Upchurch says they will number 100 in a short time. They are to meet Thursday night of this week to arrange for the purchase of fertilizers. The Alliance will buy as a body, and the indications now point to a big saving to them. They will buy from 75 to 150 tons, so Brother Upchurch states, and mostly for cash. Any one can easily foresee that an order the size of that, and mostly for cash, will bring out competition and low prices.

That Alliance is situated in one of the finest tobacco producing districts it has ever been my privilege to visit. The prevailing low prices of tobacco does not affect them to any considerable extent as they raise mostly fine wrappers, and there is not the competition in that grade or class of tobacco that there is in the lower grades.

I found the people up there very enthusiastic as to the outlook of the Alliance.

Let the farmers all over the State continue to agitate organization and this year will witness a revival of the Alliance such as has not been in years.

I have not the space nor the time to write about the many sections of the State from which I am continually receiving letters asking for instructions in regard to reorganizing the Alliance. It is only necessary for me to say the farmers are now interested as they have not been before in years.

T. B. PARKER,
Secretary.

The Russo-Japanese War.

The following extract from the Country Gentleman tells about all there is to say about the Russo-Japanese War:

In spite of all the unsatisfactory columns which the newspapers print about the war between Russia and Japan, a great conflict has seldom gone nearly half way through its second month and left the world in denser ignorance both of what has been done and of what is preparing. This is partly due to the distance of the scene of the operations from the western world, and more no doubt to the censorship which seems to be exercised with equal vigor by both combatants. During the last two weeks there have been numerous skirmishes and casualties, but apparently nothing decisive. There was a bombardment of Port Arthur by Admiral Togo's fleet, in which the latter succeeded in getting into closer range than formerly and in doing considerable damage to the town and even to the batteries of the forts. Port Arthur at one time was said to be abandoned, but Russian denials came quickly. Two Russian torpedo-boat destroyers were blown up at Port Arthur, and the Japanese suffered some losses of torpedo boats—though the second Russian vessel, the Kkorri, met its fate by striking an unplaced mine. Something also is going forward on land. There must be a considerable Japanese army now in Corea, which appears to have concentrated near Pingyang, facing Russian forces at Autung on the northern bank of the Yalu River, which the latter are said to have begun to cross last week.

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